only by way of affiliation to universities in whose jurisdiction they fall. All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) accords recognition to institutions imparting management and technical education. Courses of instruction are to be based on the model syllabi prescribed by the UGC or that of the concerned affiliating University or as laid down by the appropriate statutory Council responsible for determining and maintaining the standards of professional education.

The Government are not aware of any non-recognised institutions offering valid degrees. However, where cases of fake universities have been detected by the UGC, they are proceeded against by the Commission as per rule.

**Entry conditions in IITs**

1346. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have directed all IITs to reduce their threshold entry conditions;

(b) whether it is also a fact that managements of IITs have been told to make entrance examinations easier;

(c) whether it is also a fact that IITs were advised to give liberal marks so as to pass as much applicants as possible;

(d) if so, the reaction of managements of IITs in this regard; and

(e) the steps proposed to increase academic standards at IITs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) are Institutes of academic excellence. The academic standards are set by these Institutes themselves.